



Science Ambassador Program A Professional Development Program For Middle and High School Science Teachers



Sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has well-documented scientific issues that can provide excellent educational opportunities for teachers and students. While we at CDC have the scientific expertise, teachers have the educational training needed to develop effective lesson plans and activities that can bring this information into the classroom. To provide a bridge between CDC scientists and teachers, CDC is sponsoring the Science Ambassador Program. In this program, CDC scientists work with science teachers to educate them about interesting and challenging scientific public health issues. Following this instruction, teachers create effective lesson plans to engage students by bringing relevant and current public health issues into their science classrooms. Our goal is to improve scientific public health knowledge and foster this interest among teachers and adolescents.

Teachers will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of selected topics, such as folic acid, birth defects, genetics, fetal alcohol syndrome, epidemiology, surveillance, hearing loss, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease. Participating teachers will then use this knowledge to write high-quality science lesson plans for publication. This program will allow teachers to become involved in creating new and exciting lessons, enhance their knowledge of the scientific basis of public health, and expand their professional network to include scientists at CDC.

Commitment to this program involves attendance at a one week summer workshop, followed by the development, extensive review and publication of two high-quality lesson plans, and the implementation of two Science Ambassador lesson plans by December 2006. All participating teachers who complete the program will receive a CDC certificate of completion and the title of Science Ambassador.

For detailed information about the program, including expectations and requirements, please visit 'Becoming A Science Ambassador' at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/folicacid/ScienceAmbassador.htm>.

Application packages must be postmarked by March 1, 2006. Please mail all completed application packages to the following address:

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities
Attn: Heather Carter
1600 Clifton Rd. NE, MS E-86
Atlanta, GA 30333**

Incomplete applications will not be considered. If you have questions, please contact Science Ambassador Program staff at scienceambassador@cdc.gov or 404-498-4080.

Science Ambassador Application

To complete this form via computer, please hit the "Insert" button on your keyboard. This will allow you to type the information in the allowed space rather than adding spaces.

Section 1: Applicant Information

Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

School _____

School Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Principal's Name _____

Grade level(s) you teach _____

Subject area(s) you teach _____

Please list several of your scientific interests _____

How did you hear about the Science Ambassador Program?

Please indicate your availability for each workshop:

I am available for workshop I (June 12-16)

____ Yes
____ No

I am available for workshop II (July 17-21)

____ Yes
____ No

Other comments on your availability _____

I have read about expectations and understand the requirements for the Science Ambassador Program at 'Becoming a Science Ambassador' on <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/folicacid/ScienceAmbassador.htm>.

Signature

Date

Section 2: Academic and Professional Experience (limit 2 pages)

Please attach a current curriculum vitae detailing your professional accomplishments and current activities, teaching experience, academic achievements, and awards or honors received.

Section 3: Letters of Recommendation

Please provide two letters of recommendation, one from a principal or supervisor and the second from another individual who knows your teaching abilities. Please have both references complete the attached forms indicating his or her support for your participation in this professional development program, along with a brief statement detailing your ability to mentor students. *Letters of recommendation should be placed in a sealed envelope with the signature of the principal or supervisor across the seal to ensure confidentiality.*

Section 4: Personal Statement (limit 1 page)

Please include a personal statement describing (1) why you would like to participate in this program, (2) how you would use the knowledge gained in your science classroom, especially as it relates to (a) public health, and (b) your dedication to students and science education, and (3) your ability to complete all requirements of the program. This statement should be no more than one page in length.

Section 5: Lesson Plan

Please include an example of your best *science* lesson plan. We encourage you to submit a lesson plan on a public health topic if you have one available. If you do not have one available, please submit any science lesson plan. Lesson plans should include a title, primary learning outcomes, a procedure section including all supporting documents, and an assessment. Please visit 'Becoming a Science Ambassador' at the following Web site for detailed information on what CDC considers an effective lesson plan, along with specific examples.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/folicacid/ScienceAmbassador.htm>.

Section 6: Teacher Certification

Please attach a copy of your current teaching certification.

Eligibility

Participants must be practicing middle or high school science teachers. At this time, the Science Ambassador Program is limiting the number of participants.

Selection Criteria

All applications will be reviewed by the Science Ambassador Program Advisory Committee. Potential participants might be asked to participate in a telephone interview during the selection process. For each application, the Science Ambassador Program Advisory Committee will weigh the individual's 'academic and professional experience', the 'lesson plan', and the 'personal statement' most heavily. This is followed by the 'letters of recommendation' as well as ensuring that the program has a diverse group of grade levels and geography. For a detailed description of selection criteria, please visit 'Becoming a Science Ambassador' at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/folicacid/ScienceAmbassador.htm>.

Applicants will be notified of their status by April 17, 2006.

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Science Ambassador Program
Letter of Recommendation
(To be completed by applicant's principal or supervisor)



Please complete the following information. This information will be used to help the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) choose candidates for the Science Ambassador Program. Selected science teachers will participate in a workshop hosted by CDC featuring eminent CDC scientists presenting information on various public health science topics. Teachers will use this information to develop unique and exemplary science lesson plans that meet state and national science education standards. **Please place this form (and any attached pages) in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal to ensure confidentiality. Your input is greatly appreciated!**

Section 1: Please rate the teacher on the following characteristics:

	1 Poor	2 Fair	3 Average	4 Good	5 Superb
1. Ability to work with a team.					
2. Ability to use new or current information in the classroom.					
3. Ability to accept constructive criticism.					
4. Commitment to fulfilling professional obligations.					
5. Ability to use creative teaching methods.					
6. Computer literacy and the ability to use technology in the classroom.					
7. Ability to develop lesson plans.					

Additional comments: _____

Section 2: Briefly discuss how long and in what capacity you have known the applicant, how the candidate is dedicated to teaching science, and how he or she mentors students in your school. Also, please address, whether upon completing the program the candidate would have school administration/school official's support to implement Science Ambassador-approved lesson plans. (You may attach a separate page if necessary.)

Signature, Title

Date



Science Ambassador Program
Letter of Recommendation
(To be completed by someone familiar
with the applicant's teaching abilities)



Please complete the following information. This information will be used to help the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) choose candidates for the Science Ambassador Program. Selected science teachers will participate in a workshop hosted by CDC featuring eminent CDC scientists presenting information on various public health science topics. Teachers will use this information to develop unique and exemplary science lesson plans that meet state and national science education standards. **Please place this form (and any attached pages) in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal to ensure confidentiality. Your input is greatly appreciated!**

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6. Computer literacy and the ability to use technology in the classroom.					
7. Ability to develop lesson plans.					

Additional comments: _____

Section 2: Briefly discuss how long and in what capacity you have known the applicant , how the candidate is dedicated to teaching science, how he or she mentors students in your school. Also, please address the candidate's experience and potential for developing lesson plans that other teachers can use. (You may attach a separate page if necessary.)

Signature, Title

Date